

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 AID-05

XMB-02 AGR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FDRE-00 /046 W

----- 013237

R 021400Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4255

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 106

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MZ, SA, RH

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF RAILROAD COMMUNICATIONS AND FOOD SHORTAGES  
IN AFTER-MATH OF CYCLONE DANAE

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT AS A RESULT OF TORRENTIAL RAIN THAT  
FELL IN WAKE OF CYCLONE DANAE, THE LIMPOPO RAIL-LINE WHICH LINKS  
LOURENCO MARQUES WITH MALVERNIA (AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA) HAS BEEN  
CLOSED DUE TO COLLAPSE OF SEVERAL RAIL EMBANKMENTS. MAJOR  
ROADS LINKING MOZAMBIQUE TO SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAILAND ALSO UNDER  
WATER.

2. LIMPOPO AND SAVE RIVERS HAVE ALSO OVERFLOWED THEIR BANKS AND  
SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES OF LIMPOPO RIVER VALLEY ARE COMPLETELY  
FLOODED.

3. COMMENT: WITH SUBSISTENCE AND CASH CROP PRODUCTION ALREADY  
FALLING, LAST WEEK'S HARSH WEATHER WILL ONLY AGGRAVATE MOZAMBIQUE'S  
ALREADY BLEAK AGRICULTURAL PICTURE. RAINS AND FLOOD WATERS HAVE  
APPARENTLY DESTROYED THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF MAIZE PRODUCED FOR  
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SUBSISTENCE COMSUMPTION, AS WELL AS MOST OF COUNTRY'S SMALL PEANUT

CROP. STORM MAY ALSO FURTHER REDUCE CASHEW PRODUCTION IN INHAMBANE AREA.

4 EQUALLY DISTURBING, RAINS AND FLOODING ASSOCIATED WITH CYCLONE DANAE HAVE REPORTEDLY CAUSED SERIOUS DAMAGE TO MAIZE AND WHEAT CROPS IN SOUTHEASTERN RHODESIA AND TRANSVAL. IN PAST MONTHS, AS MAIZE PRODUCTION HAS DROPPED IN MOZAMBIQUE, SOUTHERN RHODESIA/SOUTH AFRICA HAVE BECOME ESSENTIAL SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR MOZAMBIQUE MARKET. IN THE LONG RUN, INABILITY OF GPRM TO PURCHASE RHODESIAN CEREALS COULD HAVE EQUALLY DELETERIOUS SOCIAL EFFECTS AS FOOD SHORTAGES IN URBAN AREAS BECOME MORE ACUTE.  
CARSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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